Council on Postsecondary Education Committee on Equal Opportunities October 17, 2005

Format for Departments of Public Safety Reports

At its June 2005 meeting, the Committee on Equal Opportunities received status reports from the universities regarding the interaction between students and the departments of public safety. After reviewing the reports, the committee asked Council staff to work with institutional representatives to develop a common or uniform format to collect and present these data for CEO review. The data are reported annually to the committee. The committee is particularly interested in receiving information from the institutions that provide a reasonable depiction of the campus climate, particularly information related to the relationship among African American students and the public safety officers.

Two options were explored by CPE staff and institutional representatives. First, whether it is possible to develop a Web-based reporting system that could simultaneously capture information related to the Clary and Minger Acts, and the information sought by the CEO. This approach proved to be unsuccessful. A second option was for CPE staff to develop a uniform reporting format to capture and report the data requested by the CEO and share the format with institutions for comment. By consensus, the second option was identified as the preferred method of collecting and reporting information to the CEO. Following a meeting of institutional representatives, including university police, September 22, Council staff agreed to develop a uniform reporting format that will allow the institutions to compile information for the CEO. The draft uniform format will be shared with institutional representatives for review and comment and subsequently used to develop 2006 reports.